

REAR ADMIRAL GRIFFIN EXPLAINS THE INCREASE OF EXPENSES IN NAVY YARDS.

COST OF MATERIALS NOTED

How the high cost of living affects "the navy" is one of the questions which the engineering bureau of the Navy Department was explained to the House committee on naval affairs today by Rear Admiral Griffin, chief of that office. One instance he pointed out was the price now demanded for boiler plates. Formerly boiler plates could be obtained for 12 cents a pound. Copper, worth normally 14 cents a pound, is selling for 33 1/2 cents a pound.

Admiral Griffin said that the fifteen days' leave of absence given workmen in navy yards has increased the cost for labor 5 per cent. In his bureau alone this item runs up to \$250,000 or \$300,000 a year in an average year. The estimate for clerical hire in navy yards from \$501,576 to \$855,000, he attributed to the increased and to additional force due to the new naval building program.

Wireless Station Improvements.

Questioned as to when the improvements at the various wireless stations will be completed, Admiral Griffin said the station at Santiago would be in operation on its increased capacity basis by January 1 and the stations at Honolulu and Cavite by July 1. He said a small deficiency might be incurred in this item owing to the increase in the price of materials.

A net reduction of \$10,000 in appropriations for the improvement of machinery plants was then discussed by the committee and explained by Admiral Griffin. In the course of the hearing, Chairman Padgett made the statement that the committee had not yet determined whether it will recommend a 20 per cent increase or a 25 per cent or 30 per cent increase.

Discusses New Construction.

Admiral Griffin told the committee that bids for the battle cruisers will be opened December 6 and that the awards for the battleships will probably be allotted this week. Contracts for eighteen destroyers have been awarded and decisions in two bids are being deferred. Chairman Padgett said he understood these two vessels will be built in government yards. Admiral Griffin said that in regard to the submarines the preliminaries have been entered into and are under negotiation. One item of building has been ordered that the federal trade commission should determine disputes, and there is no arrangement for the purchase of the submarine. He said the department does not care to grant.

Explosions Aboard Submarines.

Replying to a question by Mr. Butler of the commission, Admiral Griffin told of the reports of the boards which investigated the explosion on the submarine E-2, January 15, 1916. He said the investigation showed that the explosion occurred in the engine compartment only yesterday, and he had not read it. In the explosion four men were killed and nine injured by the explosion. The explosion was attributed to the formation of hydrogen gas, due to faulty ventilation.

Twenty-One Knots Standard Speed.

Admiral Griffin told the committee that twenty-one knots has been adopted as the standard speed for battleships. This was decided upon because it had been found that greater speed required the sacrifice of other qualities of offense or defense. England, which had adopted the standard of 21 knots, had fallen back upon twenty-one knots. He said that it will be used exclusively as fuel in the new ships, and he thought there would be no restriction on the government ownership of the California oil fields, which it believes it possesses.

Admiral Griffin said the battle cruisers would be 18,000-horsepower. The cruiser, he said, would be applied in a manner never before seen in the workings of a marine engine. He said he thought it could be done safely.

New Cruisers to Be Very Speedy.

The admiral said there are rumors that England is building a ship somewhat like the proposed series of American battle cruisers, but no definite news of it has been received. The new battle cruisers, he said, would have four propellers and be very speedy.

Asked as to the submarines authorized by the naval appropriation act of 1916, he said that the L-1, L-2, L-3, L-4 had been delivered, but that there is battery trouble in them; the M-1 not ready, but the M-2 and M-3 are being built. The manufacture of the new turbines on the North Dakota has begun at Brooklyn, and the engine is being built and out of active service six months.

Answering Representative Roberts, Admiral Griffin said the ships appropriated for in the naval appropriation act of 1916 are being built and satisfactory progress is being made, he said.

Progress in Aeroplane Engine.

The admiral was asked as to progress made in developing a satisfactory aeroplane engine for the navy. He said a good 12-cylinder, 500-horsepower engine was "coming on."

He said he believed foreign manufacturers have produced better engines because they have used the finest possible materials, and that Americans have only recently awakened to the necessity of using the highest grade of steel and other metals.

"The average life of an aero motor is eighty hours," he said. Chairman Padgett said: "Has there been any improvement there?"

Admiral Griffin said that increased production of aero engines here had improved their quality.

Dr. Bailett, surgeon general of the navy, followed Admiral Griffin to explain the increase in the cost of medical supplies from \$21,000 to \$1,120,000. The increase in the authorized amount for medical supplies was \$1,100,000. He said the naval legislation of last year had added the medical department work to the navy, and that it would build up a perfect organization, "one of the best medical organizations in the world."

Problem in Getting Men.

The problem of enlisting men for the increased navy, considered by many members of Congress to be the greatest of all naval problems, was taken up for discussion before the naval affairs committee of the House yesterday by Rear Admiral McGowan, paymaster general. There are but 55,000 men in the navy, which is 22,000 less than the authorized strength. Admiral McGowan said that high wages ashore and the increased cost of living account for the inability to get men quickly, but that he hoped to see a total enlisted strength of 70,000 by the end of 1918.

"Their inability to send home enough money to keep their families," said the admiral, "is the governing factor in preventing many men from enlisting," said the admiral. From long experience

D. C. HEASBLED MORE PAY APPEAL

Representative Kelley of Michigan asked if an increase in the scale of navy pay would aid to the recruiting. "Undoubtedly," answered the naval officer, "but the pay question is not the only consideration."

He agreed later to submit suggestions as to improving the rate of recruiting.

Admiral McGowan said that the cost of rations in the navy had increased. The average cost per man per day for rations in the first part of 1915 was \$7.62 cents, but in the last quarter the average has risen to \$8.375 cents.

ANOTHER HEARING CALLED ON NEWS PRINT SITUATION

Federal Trade Commission Fixes December 12 for Further Probe Into Conspiracy Charges.

The federal trade commission today fixed December 12 as the date for another public hearing on the news print paper situation and invited manufacturers, jobbers, newspaper publishers and any others interested to appear.

The commission made no announcement concerning the request for a hearing, but it is generally believed the commission will go deeper into charges of conspiracy among manufacturers to raise prices.

Members of the commission would only say today the hearings would develop and disclose certain facts.

Paper Combination Alleged.

The date was selected after conferences with officers of the American Newspaper Association, who, at a previous hearing, charged high prices to a manufacturers' combination. Publishers, who attribute high prices to a scarcity of material, also were consulted.

Investigators who have been at work for months now are ready to report and information they have gathered will be presented at the hearing. The publisher told the commission it was in much better position to develop facts than were the publishers.

HALF-HOLIDAY WEDNESDAY IN SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS

Several of the government department executives are planning to give the employees a half-holiday next Wednesday, Thanksgiving eve. There was a movement on foot today to get all of them to close. Those which have tentatively decided to close are the departments of State, Treasury, Commerce and Labor. Heads of the other departments have not yet reached a decision in the matter.

The heads of the navy department is complicated by the fact that the half-day holiday cannot be extended to the employees of the local navy yard except by presidential order. The commandant of the yard is the per diem clerk.

The heads of all the executive departments, it is said, will receive the remainder of their November salaries Wednesday.

TRAIN ROBBED IN CHICAGO.

Bandits Get \$1,000 From Express Car in Heart of City.

CHICAGO, November 24.—Two bandits last night held up the messenger on the express car of a Chicago and North Western passenger train on the outskirts of Chicago. The men escaped in the darkness, after binding and gagging the express messenger and rifling the safe, when the train reached a switching station in the heart of the city. They had boarded the train at Barrington, Ill., thirty miles north of Chicago.

The railroad and the American Express Company, which operated the car, each offered a reward of \$500 for the robbers' capture. Express company officials said the reward would be paid if the men were captured. The express company of the lost will not be determined until the contents of the safe have been checked, but estimated that about \$1,000 in cash was taken.

RAISES WAGES 30 PER CENT.

Central Trust Company Meets High Cost of Living.

NEW YORK, November 24.—Based on an inquiry which disclosed that the employees of the Central Trust Company are paying from 25 to 35 per cent more for such life necessities as food and clothing, a salary increase equivalent to from 20 to 31 per cent was announced by the company today. It applies to the highest paid employees and will be in effect December 1. The company said it received no advance within the next few weeks, according to an official announcement.

More Than 3,000 Get Increase.

SHARON, Pa., November 24.—More than 3,000 men employed by independent steel concerns in this vicinity have been given an increase of 10 per cent in wages, effective December 15, and at least 2,000 men will receive a similar advance within the next few weeks, according to an official announcement.

Third Increase in Calendar Year.

MANCHESTER, N. H., November 24.—The Amoskeag Manufacturing Company, whose cotton manufacturing plant, employing 18,000 persons, is said to be the largest in the world, has announced a third increase in wages, substantially the same in amount as given in other textile cities in New England to take effect December 1. The company said the increase granted by the company in the calendar year.

BOATS SEEK REFUGE PORTS.

Few Caught by Storm on Lake Huron—Tug Crew Rescued.

DETROIT, Mich., November 24.—Reports received here today from ports of refuge on Lake Huron indicated that few boats were caught in the terrific gale which swept Lake Huron last night. The gale, which was reported in Detroit, was reported in Detroit.

The government warning was flashed over the lake region yesterday and numerous freighters made for port. Several are still in the Detroit river and others are at Port Huron.

Life-savers rescued the crew of a fishing tug which was caught in the gale off Alpena. The tug was towed to Middle Island.

Frederick W. Fleitz Dies.

SCRANTON, Pa., November 24.—Frederick W. Fleitz, formerly deputy attorney general of Pennsylvania and a leader in republican politics in the state, died here today. He had been suffering from a long illness. He was 74 years old.

CONSIDERATION TO BE GIVEN PROPOSAL FOR GRADED INCREASE IN DISTRICT SERVICE.

Consideration will be given by the District Commissioners before the opening of Congress to the appeal of District employees for a graded increase in pay.

A bill to accomplish this result, drafted by the legislative committee of the District branch of the Federal Employees' Union, has been presented to the Commissioners by President Joseph H. Hurley, chairman ex-officio of the committee.

According to one of the District heads, whether the bill will be given the movement to obtain increased pay for employees of the federal departments. It is understood to be the belief that Congress will be more likely to give favorable consideration to a general proposal for increased pay for both federal and District employees.

Ask for Graded Increase.

The proposal of the municipal government union is for a 20 per cent increase for employees receiving less than \$1,000 a year; 15 per cent increase for those receiving more than \$1,000 and less than \$1,500; 10 per cent increase for those receiving \$1,500 to \$2,000, and a 5 per cent increase for all employees receiving more than \$2,000.

The bill also provides that all persons receiving maintenance and quarters from the District shall receive an increase of 5 per cent. Policemen, firemen and school teachers will not share in the benefits of the proposed legislation, it being inferred that the organizations of these employees will look after the interests of their members.

Would Add \$444,596 to Pay Roll.

It has been estimated that if the bill should pass as drawn it would add a total of \$444,596 to the annual pay roll of the District, of which \$280,770 would go to per diem men, and that 3,528 employees would be benefited by the increased pay.

The commissioners, it is expected, will take up consideration of the bill tomorrow or early next week. While they have not committed themselves in the matter, they have not opposed the organization of District employees into a union and have looked with favor upon the movement. The bill would be proposed by the organization, among them the proposed reclassification of clerks.

CHICAGO'S DIET SQUAD SHOWS GAIN IN WEIGHT

Twelve Men and Women Have Taken on Total of Eleven Pounds, Four Ounces.

Washington merchants took a deep interest in the "party." It was pointed out that it will be an event of the greatest importance to the general public of Washington, many women householders having recently complained of the great amount of trash that is coming into their homes in the form of waste paper, which brings a constant effort to get rid of it. The party, it was pointed out, was not only a novel one for the city, but it was a party which would not only be entertained by funny pictures, but they will have the pleasure of seeing the "diet squad" who will be shown how they can be wrapped without wasting paper and string.

THINKS THE REPUBLICANS WILL CONTROL NEXT HOUSE

Edmund F. Erk of Pittsburgh Thinks Party Campaign for the Office of Clerk.

Edmund F. Erk of Pittsburgh, Pa., has announced himself as a candidate for clerk of the House of Representatives, and he and his friends are busy rounding up support among the republican members of the next Congress. Mr. Erk is proceeding upon the theory that the republicans will control the organization of the House. There will be at least thirty republicans in the House, and he has assurances of support from enough of these, he claims, to secure his endorsement for the place by the Pennsylvania delegation.

Will Be Tempted Tonight.

To test the satisfying power of the food which they have been eating, members of the squad will eat dinner tonight at a table adjoining one of the union hall. The squad will be given a dinner of beef and rice, croquettes, peas and carrots, and butter, gingerbread and tea. The menu for dinner includes tomato soup, halibut steak, parley, potatoes, bread and butter, cream pudding and tea.

Disguised as "beef and rice croquettes," which are served in a small dish, John D. Robertson, health commissioner, admitted it was the left-over of Wednesday's beef purchases.

SUBMARINE IS CAPTURED.

British Naval Forces Land Sailors and Officers at Italian Port.

MILAN, via Paris, November 24.—British naval forces recently captured a large German submarine, according to the Corriere della Sera. The newspaper says that a British mine sweeper landed thirteen sailors and two officers of the crew of the submarine at an Italian port.

TO STUDY DAYLIGHT SAVING.

Ambassadors Ordered to Observe Systems in Europe.

NEW YORK, November 24.—The State Department has instructed the American ambassadors in England, France and Germany to investigate carefully the practical effects of the daylight-saving system which was in operation in those countries during the summer, according to information received by Marcus M. Marks, president of Manhattan borough, who is heading a movement to inaugurate daylight saving in the United States next year.

Mr. Marks said today he had received word also that Samuel Gompers has appointed a committee to study the problem on behalf of the American Federation of Labor. The committee, he said, would include Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Boston and other cities have sent word that they indorse the adoption of the plan.

Official Report of Kansas Vote.

TOPEKA, Kan., November 24.—Official figures on the presidential election in Kansas follow: Wilson, 141,583; Hughes, 117,666; Sumner, 54,665; Hanly, 12,424.

PLANS UNDER WAY FOR MILITARY PARTY OF MILITIAMEN ON BORDER

Arrangements are being made in Washington today for one of the most unusual of Thanksgiving eve parties ever held in this city. A committee, representing various large department stores and other merchants, is forming an organization, under the auspices of the National Guard of the District of Columbia, for the purpose of giving a "party" for the military party of the National Guard of the District of Columbia, in line with the movement to save waste paper, particularly excess wrapping paper.

Hundreds and hundreds of boys and girls employed in the stores of Washington as bundle wrappers are to be given a "party" of their own, during which they will see some funny moving pictures, as well as serious moving pictures of how paper is manufactured.

These boys and girls, many grown-ups, too, will listen to short talks by men who are now getting \$50 a day for their services as bundle wrappers of the city in a demonstration of just how bundles and packages can be tied up with the least waste of paper and string in the shortest possible time, and they are to be given the opportunity to hear talks by the men who are now getting \$50 a day for their services as bundle wrappers of the city in a demonstration of just how bundles and packages can be tied up with the least waste of paper and string in the shortest possible time, and they are to be given the opportunity to hear talks by the men who are now getting \$50 a day for their services as bundle wrappers of the city in a demonstration of just how bundles and packages can be tied up with the least waste of paper and string in the shortest possible time, and they are to be given the opportunity to hear talks by the men who are now getting \$50 a day for their services as bundle 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